

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

10. (Currently amended) An automated cap transfer system comprising:
 - a horizontal bar coupled to a main support bar by a vertical lead screw, whereby operation of the lead screw actuates a vertical displacement of the horizontal bar relative to the support bar;
 - a fork coupled to the horizontal bar, the fork having two or more arms for engaging a LCM laser capture microdissection cap;
 - a pivotable weight coupled to the horizontal bar, wherein the weight is seated on an engaged LCM laser capture microdissection cap;
 - a lever coupled to the horizontal bar, the lever comprising at least one pin for engaging the weight and a pivot axis;
 - a kick bar coupled to the support bar, whereby lowering the horizontal bar causes the kick bar to engage the lever and actuate a pivot of the lever about the pivot axis thereby causing the at least one pin of the lever to engage the weight and displace the weight relative to the cap.
11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the horizontal bar is further coupled to a horizontal lead screw for actuating a lateral translation of the bar relative to the support bar.
12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein a lateral translation of the horizontal bar further actuates a retraction of the fork.
13. (Original) The system of claim 10, further comprising:
 - a spring for coupling the horizontal bar to the lever.
14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising:
 - a second pin in the lever for engaging the weight such that, when the weight engages the second pin, a force of the spring is transmitted to counteract the weight.
15. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the horizontal bar is further coupled to a horizontal lead screw for actuating a lateral translation of the bar relative to the support bar.